

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport



Plan for 2014-15

Statement from the Minister



*The Honourable Kevin Doherty
Minister of Parks, Culture
and Sport*

I am pleased to present the Ministry's plan for 2014-15.

The Government's Direction and Budget for 2014-15 are built on the principle of *Steady Growth* to support a continued focus on sound economic growth and shared prosperity.

The Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport is committed to achieving the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth and addressing the challenges of growth. Our Ministry will continue to invest in capital projects within our provincial parks, including developing new campgrounds and upgrading facilities to better support the millions of visits each year. We are also continuing to build capacity and increase private sector investment in all parks where the opportunity presents itself, as well as in communities across the province through programs such as Main Street Saskatchewan and artsVest™.

The purpose of growth is to secure a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people. Our Ministry will continue to promote strong families and active living through work with our third party stakeholders, the development of new programs targeted at youth, First Nations and Métis, and 'new Canadians' and continued work on programs to support government's commitment to healthy, active children and families. We will also continue to showcase Saskatchewan and build pride in our province through the Provincial Capital Commission and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum.

Our progress will be reported on in the 2014-15 annual report.

Response to Government Direction

The Government is committed to establishing Saskatchewan as the best place to live, work and raise a family.

In October 2013, the first progress report on the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth – Vision 2020 and Beyond* was released. Saskatchewan's growth is strong and steady. As Saskatchewan continues to move forward, the Government will support growth in 2014-15 through investing in people and needed infrastructure, encouraging economic growth, and through sound policy and financial decisions.

Saskatchewan's Vision

"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."

Sustaining growth and
opportunities for Saskatchewan
citizens

Meeting the challenges
of growth

Securing a better quality
of life for all
Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive
and responsible
government

Government's vision and four goals provide the framework for ministries, agencies and third parties to align their programs and services to these priorities and meet the needs of Saskatchewan's citizens.

All ministries and agencies will report on progress in their 2014-15 annual reports. This supports Government's commitment to keep its promises and ensures greater transparency and accountability to the people of Saskatchewan.

Mission, Strategies and Actions

Mission Statement

Contribute to Saskatchewan's high quality of life, instill pride and enhance economic growth through management of the provincial parks system, the provision of arts, culture, recreation, sport and tourism opportunities and through stewardship of provincial heritage resources.

Strategy

Engagement – Through collaboration with citizens, customers, stakeholders and partners, improve the Ministry's decision-making, policy and program development and service delivery

Key Actions

- ✦ Consult on fulfilling government's commitment to designate a new provincial park in the Porcupine Hills area.
- ✦ Develop a park management and development plan for Saskatchewan's newest park, Great Blue Heron, and refresh plans for Blackstrap, Lac La Ronge and Rowan's Ravine Provincial Parks.
- ✦ Lead government's efforts to strengthen tourism and recreation opportunities and promote economic growth in the Lake Diefenbaker area.
- ✦ Collaborate with the provincial arts and culture community to develop new options to use the Canada Saskatchewan Production Studio (soundstage).
- ✦ Building on the launch and success of Creative Saskatchewan in 2013-14, collaborate with creative industries and the new agency to grow a thriving creative economy of Saskatchewan talent through investment of \$7.7 million in 2014-15.
- ✦ Work with the lottery partners (Sask Sport Inc., SaskCulture Inc. and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association) to evaluate the long-term impact of Saskatchewan Lottery Trust Fund investments in meeting the priorities identified in the provincial lottery agreement.
- ✦ Work with the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) to enhance programs for communities.
- ✦ Collaborate with Sask Sport on the Canada Sport Policy and its Sport Development Strategic Plan 2013-2016.
- ✦ Support the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA) and the recreation sector to align the development of a provincial recreation sector strategy with the national recreation framework.

Strategy

Resource Stewardship - Strengthen the protection and management of Saskatchewan's park lands, heritage and cultural assets and collections, through conservation, regulation and stewardship

Key Actions

- ✦ Engage with stakeholders, experts and the local community to preserve the petroglyphs at St. Victor Petroglyphs Provincial Park.
- ✦ Continue preservation and enhancement work at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Lac La Ronge Provincial Park and the Men's House historical reconstruction at Fort Carlton Provincial Park.
- ✦ Manage provincial park ecosystems including work to control insects, invasive species and diseases (in particular Mountain Pine Beetle and Spruce Bud Worm outbreaks).
- ✦ Through the Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM), house, develop and conserve provincial heritage collections in biology, archaeology, ethnology and palaeontology and increase the understanding of Saskatchewan's natural and cultural history.
- ✦ Standardize approaches to collections management in the Government House collection and the RSM.



Photo credit: Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, photo by Calvin Fehr, 100th Anniversary of Legislative Building, La Raquette à Claquettes

- ✦ Provide archaeological heritage and built-heritage regulatory services to assist property owners and land and resource developers in project review, approval and conservation efforts.
- ✦ Modernize the Saskatchewan Register of Heritage Property to improve public accessibility and functionality.
- ✦ Update and develop the Provincial Archaeological Site Inventory for property management, educational, scientific and other uses.
- ✦ Through the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation, invest in the conservation of municipal and provincial heritage property.

Strategy

Build Capacity - Build the capacity of our partners, stakeholders and communities to preserve, sustain and celebrate the province's rich history and sport, recreational, heritage and cultural assets

Key Actions

- ✦ Build on the success of the 2011-14 Main Street Saskatchewan Demonstration Program to support additional communities in heritage design and local capital improvement.
- ✦ Collaborate with the Saskatchewan Arts Board to invest \$7.0 million in artists and arts organizations in 2014-15 to support their growth, sustainability and accountability.
- ✦ Continue the successful artsVest™ Program with an investment of \$250,000 in 2014-15, to build capacity and enhance sustainability within the provincial arts and culture community.
- ✦ Support the Western Development Museum as it improves its sustainability and continues to make a significant contribution to the celebration of our province's rich history.
- ✦ Collaborate with the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association and other stakeholders to promote the responsible use of provincially designated snowmobile trails.
- ✦ Collaborate with SPRA and other partners to invest in leadership and training opportunities, on-line resource development and program evaluation for After School Time Period initiatives.
- ✦ Work with community partners to revitalize the Claybank Brick Plant National Historic Site.
- ✦ Document and share the province's military history with schools in cooperation with the Ministry of Education.

Strategy

Improve Access – Promote participation in and visitation to the province's rich array of sport, cultural, heritage and recreational opportunities

Key Actions

- ✦ Promote visitation to Saskatchewan by:
 - ✦ partnering with PEI 2014, to showcase Saskatchewan in Charlottetown, as well as celebrate and commemorate the historic Charlottetown Conference of 1864 and Prince Edward Island's role in the formation of Canada;
 - ✦ piloting an extended one-year Saskatchewaner position that showcases the best things about working, living and playing in Saskatchewan; and,
 - ✦ celebrating anniversaries at Narrow Hills (80 years), Makwa Lake (30 years), 25 years of Saskatchewan Express in Saskatchewan provincial parks, Saskatchewan Parks Week, Canada's Parks Day and Canada Day.



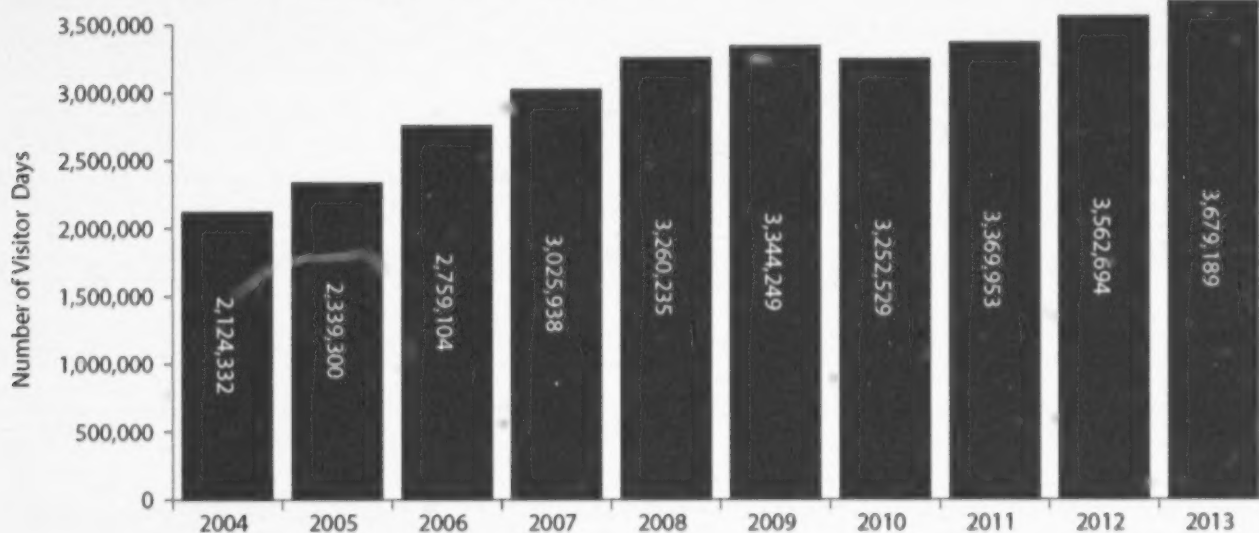
Photo credit: SaskCulture Inc., Danica Lorer, Photographer, Culture Days 2012

- ⇒ The Provincial Capital Commission will celebrate the province's heritage through enhanced visitor experiences at Saskatchewan's Legislative Building and Government House by:
 - ⇒ commemorating the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War in 2014;
 - ⇒ establishing a committee to plan the provincial celebration of Canada's 150th Anniversary in 2017;
 - ⇒ planning the celebration of the 125th anniversary of Government House in 2016; and,
 - ⇒ recognizing Saskatchewan's citizens for their contribution through the Afghanistan Memorial Vigil at the Legislative Building.
- ⇒ Capital improvements to enhance visitor experiences include:
 - ⇒ investing more than \$14.9 million in provincial parks to improve infrastructure and amenities in 2014-15;
 - ⇒ expanding and upgrading campground electrical systems at Saskatchewan Landing, Narrow Hills, Echo Valley, Great Blue Heron and Makwa Lake Provincial Parks;
 - ⇒ building two new campground service centres at Echo Valley and Greenwater Lake Provincial Parks;
 - ⇒ continuing improvements to potable water systems at Saskatchewan Landing and Pike Lake Provincial Parks;
 - ⇒ improving wastewater systems at Duck Mountain and Buffalo Pound Provincial Parks;
 - ⇒ building a new visitor reception centre at Narrow Hills Provincial Park;
 - ⇒ developing a new campground at Greenwater Lake Provincial Park;
 - ⇒ conducting detailed design and preliminary site work for a new campground at Blackstrap Provincial Park;
 - ⇒ developing full service campsites at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park;
 - ⇒ maintaining and upgrading roads, campsites, boat launches, trails, shelters and equipment across the parks system;
 - ⇒ maintaining the Community Rink Affordability Grant which provides community-owned indoor ice surfaces with an annual grant of \$2,500; and,
 - ⇒ providing financial support for the planning and construction of the Regina Stadium Project.
- ⇒ New opportunities for participation and access include:
 - ⇒ connecting 'new Canadians' and 'new to nature' visitors to provincial parks by providing a free 'Cultural Access Pass' and access to park familiarization tours;
 - ⇒ reviewing, redesigning and expanding educational and interpretive programs for school groups and casual visitors to parks, Government House and the RSM;
 - ⇒ coordinating bilingual "Capital Vignettes" in collaboration with Government House, RCMP Heritage Centre, Saskatchewan Legislative Building and community partners;
 - ⇒ promoting the RSM by updating the Earth Sciences Gallery and taking travelling exhibits to nine communities;
 - ⇒ inviting youth to the Capital City to learn about democracy, governance and their provincial history; and,
 - ⇒ establishing a provincial Athletics Commission to sanction professional combative sports.

Performance Measures

Measure

Number of Visitor Days in Saskatchewan Provincial Parks



Source: PCS Summer Visitation and Outdoor Recreation Statistical Report

Measure Description

Saskatchewan's provincial parks set another record for visitation in 2013 and for the seventh year in a row, there were more than three million visitor days at provincial parks. The high visitation in 2013 is due, in part, to the additional funding that has been strategically invested in new facilities, facility upgrades, and campsite electrification (new and upgraded) beginning in 2008-09.

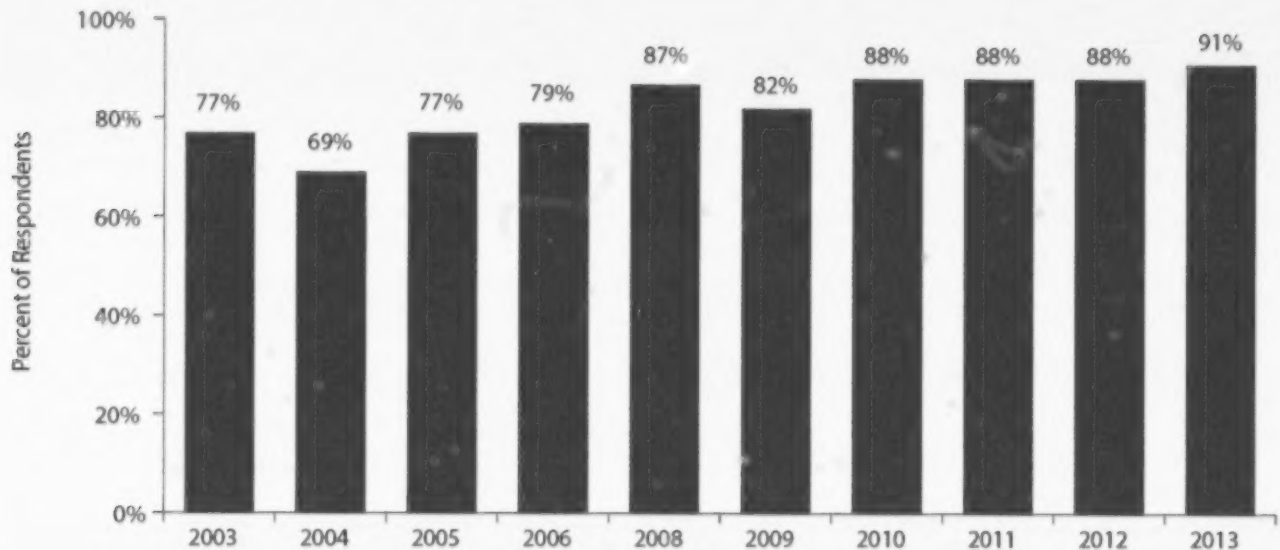
This is a measure of park access and popularity during the summer. Tracking this measure helps the Ministry evaluate the success of its marketing, policies and related programs. This measure is a conservative estimate as data is not collected in fall and winter or in many smaller park sites in the summer. This data was obtained from park visitation reports.



Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatoon, Broadway Bridge

Measure

Satisfaction with Saskatchewan Provincial Park Visit



Source: 2003-06: Saskatchewan Omnibus Poll; 2008 and 2012-13: Park Camper Survey; 2009-2011: SK Tourism Post-Campaign Survey by Fast Consulting for Tourism SK
Note: No data was collected in 2007

Measure Description

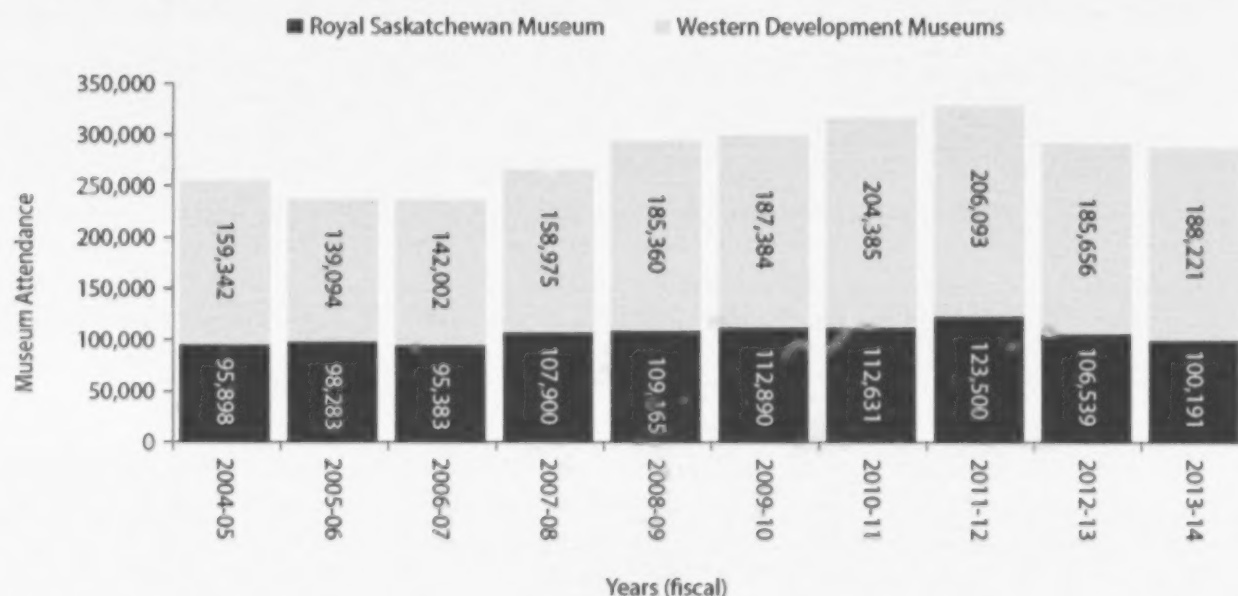
This measure is an indicator of how satisfied visitors are with the programs, services and facilities offered at our provincial parks. The Ministry has been investing in Saskatchewan's provincial parks in order to offer a better camping experience. The improvements include the launch of a new online booking system, adding electricity to nearly 1,100 campsites, building new service centres, change houses and boat launches. Visitor satisfaction remained high in 2013 with 91 per cent of visitors indicating satisfaction with their visit to a provincial park. Different sources have informed the trend line since 2003; however, overall visitor satisfaction continues to be very high.



Photo Credit: Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, Greg Huszar Photography, Dock Jumpers

Measure

Number of Visitors to Saskatchewan Museums



Sources: Royal Saskatchewan Museum; Western Development Museums (Four WDMs and Curatorial Centre)

Measure Description

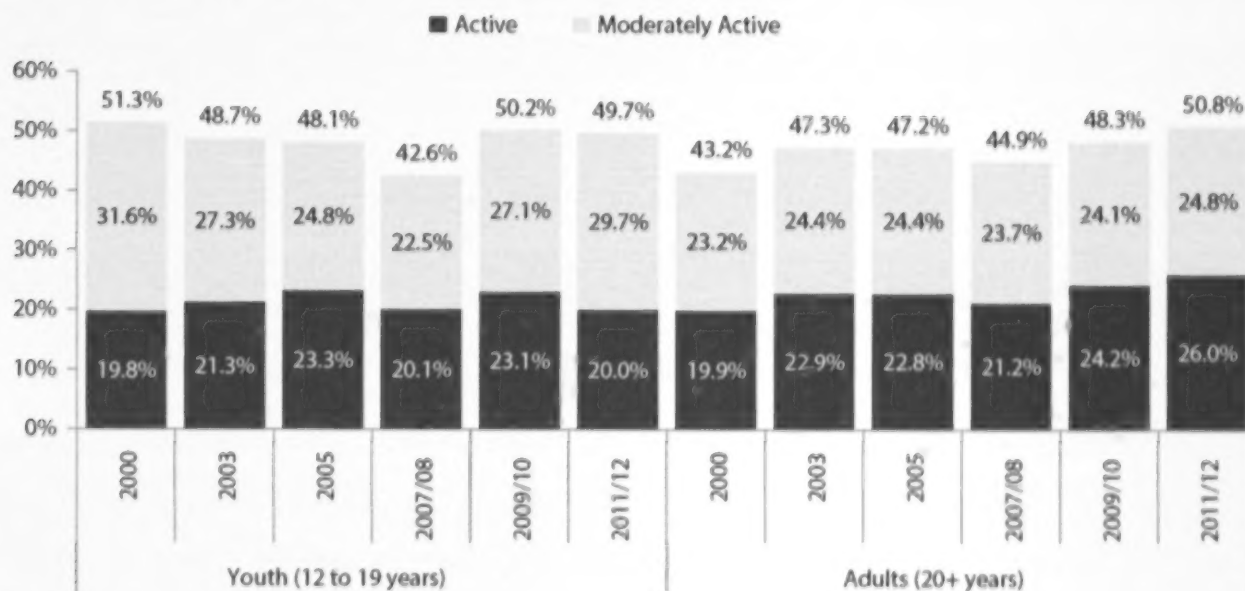
Attendance at the Western Development Museums (WDMs) is expected to increase slightly from 2012-13 to 2013-14. Attendance at the RSM is expected to decrease by six per cent during that same period. The decrease at the RSM is in large part due to decreased casual visitation.

Museums in Saskatchewan play a critical role in conserving and interpreting the province's natural and cultural heritage. Tracking these numbers helps the Ministry to evaluate the success of marketing, exhibits and programs for the RSM and WDMs. Visitation statistics from the WDMs combine the WDM locations of Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Saskatoon and Yorkton.

This data was obtained from RSM and WDM visitation reports and is current to the end of January 2014. Visitation estimates based on previous year's data were used to estimate attendance from February to the end of March 2014.

Measure

Percentage of Saskatchewan Residents who are Physically Active



Source: Statistics Canada: Canadian Community Health Survey Physical Activity Index, Moderately Active or Active

Measure Description

This measure reflects the proportion of Saskatchewan adults (20 years or older) and youth (12 to 19 years) who are physically active during their leisure time. The proportion of Saskatchewan adults who were active increased slightly from 24.2 per cent in 2009-10 to 26.0 per cent in 2011-12. During that same time, the proportion of Saskatchewan youth who were active decreased from 23.1 per cent to 20.0 per cent. The proportion of youth and adults who are physically active in the province remains low.

This measure is derived from the Physical Activity Index (PAI) from the Statistics Canada Canadian Community Health Survey and is based on respondent self-reporting. The PAI categorizes respondents as being active, moderately active or inactive. PCS revised the PAI categories to better reflect the Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines for youth. More current data is not available.

The Ministry recognizes some of the limitations of self-report data to assess physical activity. PCS, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, is exploring alternatives to measure physical activity levels on an ongoing basis.

In 2007, the Canadian Community Health Survey started collecting half of the sample size annually. The half samples collected in 2007 and 2008 were pooled together to match the sample sizes of 2000, 2003 and 2005. This approach has continued in subsequent years.

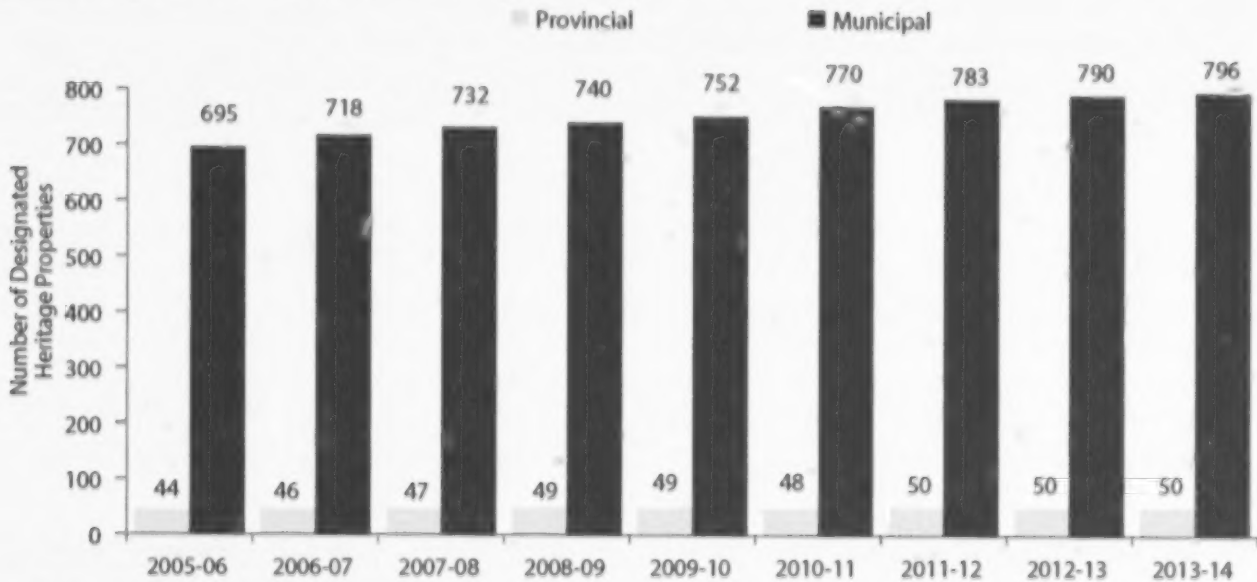
Tracking physical activity levels helps the Ministry understand the success of marketing, programming and infrastructure initiatives to increase the number of Saskatchewan residents engaging in sufficient levels of physical activity needed to help maintain a healthy, active lifestyle. The Ministry works with several stakeholders on initiatives to increase physical activity through the CIF, Sask Sport Inc. and SPRA.



Photo Credit: Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, Devona Hill Photography, Rolling Pines Golf and Country Resort

Measure

Number of Designated Heritage Properties: Provincial and Municipal



Source: PCS Heritage Conservation Branch

Measure Description

The *Heritage Property Act* empowers any municipality, by bylaw, to designate any locally-significant property as a municipal heritage property and also empowers the Minister to designate any property of provincial importance as a provincial heritage property. PCS advises the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation on grant applications involving provincial heritage properties and nominations for designation.

In 2013-14, eight properties were formally designated as municipal heritage properties and two existing municipal heritage properties were repealed.

The number of new designated properties is a measure of the level of activity related to heritage resource identification, preservation and protection. By tracking the number of designated properties, the Ministry is able to measure the success of programs and services designed to retain and rehabilitate structures designated under the Act. Please note that the values reported for the number of designated municipal heritage properties may differ from those previously reported, due to clean up of the heritage property database.

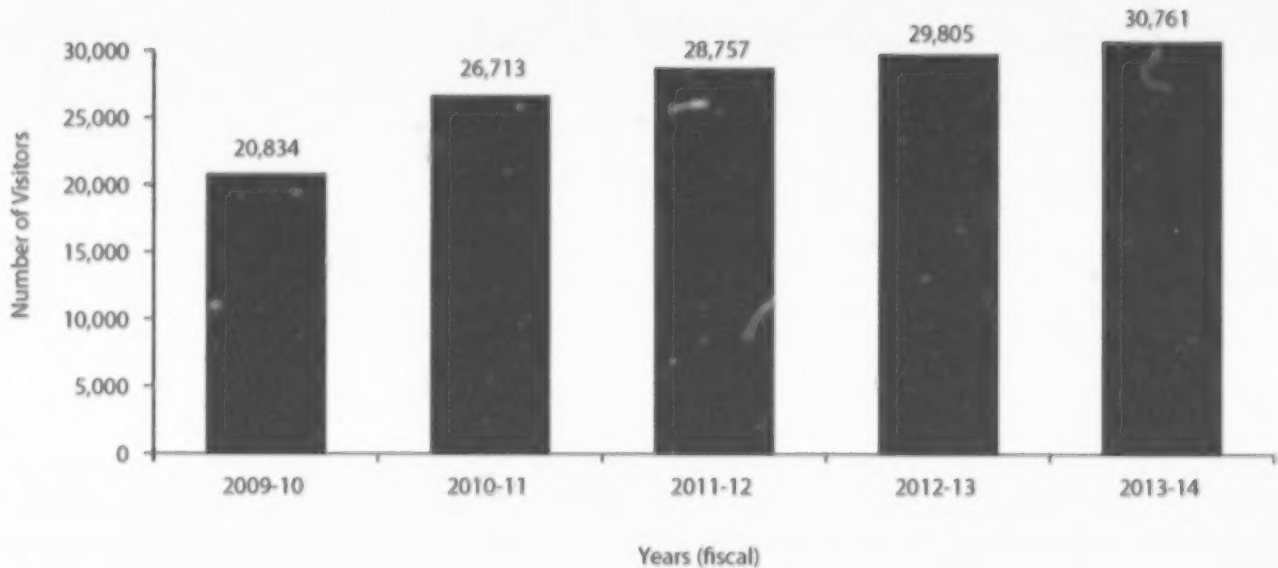
The Saskatchewan Register of Heritage Property is a searchable database of all historic places designated under The Heritage Property Act, and is available on the Ministry's website: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/heritage>.



Photo Credit: Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, Davin Andrie, Hunt Falls

Measure

Number of Visitors to Government House



Source: Office of the Provincial Capital Commission - Government House

Measure Description

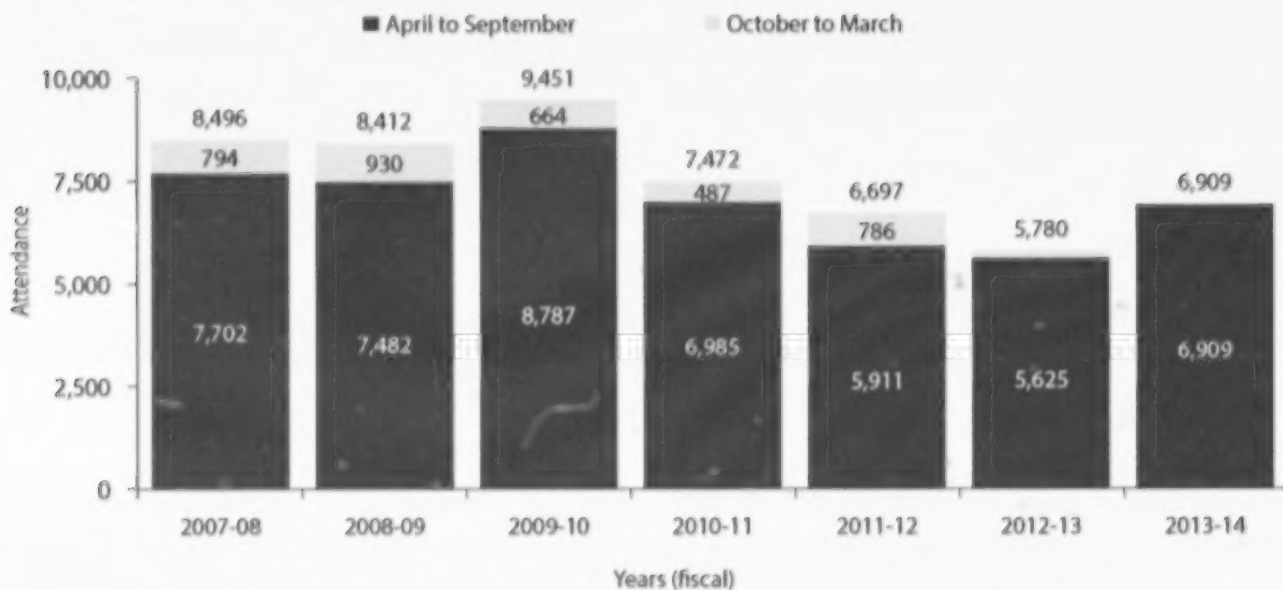
Government House is a jewel of the provincial capital. Built in 1891, this grand building first served as the official residence of the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Territories. Restored to the period of Lieutenant Governor Amédée Forget, who was in office from 1898-1910, the museum gives you a glimpse of life at Government House at the turn of the 20th century. Surrounded by the majestic 8.5 acre Edwardian Gardens, Government House is promoted as a diverse education centre and a premier tourist destination open throughout the year. Government House is both a designated National Historic Site and Provincial Heritage Property. Visitation is projected to increase slightly in 2013-14. Visitation is current to January 2014 and estimates are based on tentative bookings to March 31, 2014.



Photo Credit: Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Photo by Harold Bryant, Mosasaur at the RSM

Measure

Number of Visitors to T.rex Discovery Centre



Source: Royal Saskatchewan Museum

Measure Description

The T.rex Discovery Centre, located in Eastend, is a centre of excellence for scientific research and education in palaeontology, as well as a leading tourist attraction for the Province of Saskatchewan. The centre is home to "Scotty," one of Canada's most complete Tyrannosaurus rex fossils.

In 2013-14, the first year that the centre was operated by the RSM, the facility received 6,909 visits between April and September, an increase of over 20 per cent from the same period in 2012-13. Prior to 2013-14, the centre operated year-round.

Tracking these numbers helps the Ministry evaluate the success of marketing, exhibits and programs at the T.rex Discovery Centre.

Financial Summary

2014-15 Estimates	(In thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services	11,484
Community Initiatives Fund	9,316
Building Communities	468
Parks	32,443
Culture	31,775
Heritage	9,542
Sport, Recreation and Stewardship	4,298
Regina Stadium Project	50,000
Provincial Capital Commission	6,623
Ministry Operations Appropriation	155,949
Capital Asset Acquisitions	(13,299)
Non-Appropriated Expense Adjustment	3,886
Ministry Expense	146,536
Total Appropriation	155,949

FTE Staff Complement	
Ministry	118.4
Commercial Revolving Fund	241.3
Total FTE Complement	359.7

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget>

Ministry Spending by Key Program Area

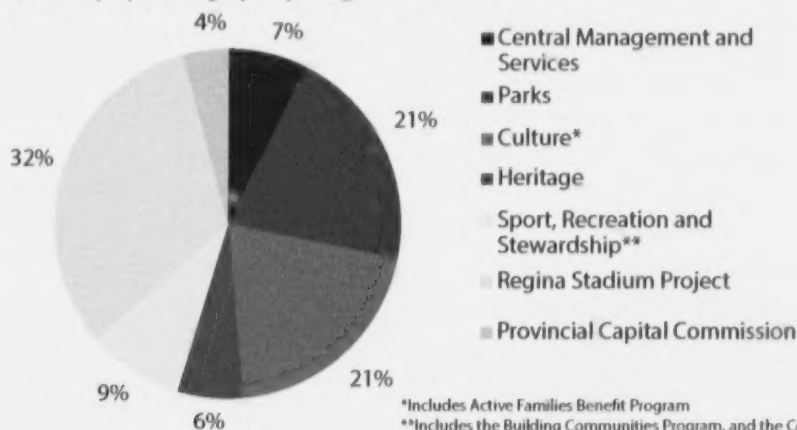


Photo Credit: Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, photo by Vicki East, Rafferty Reservoir

Highlights





2014-15 Budget Highlights:

- ⇒ Improvements to provincial parks continue through enhanced capital and maintenance funding with an increase of 4.6 per cent. The total parks capital budget will hit a record of \$14.9 million for upgrades and new construction projects including:
 - ⇒ major expansion and upgrades to campground electrical systems in Saskatchewan Landing, Narrow Hills, Echo Valley, Great Blue Heron and Makwa Lake Provincial Parks;
 - ⇒ construction of two new campground service centres at Echo Valley and Greenwater Lake Provincial Parks;
 - ⇒ preservation and enhancement work at major historic facilities; and,
 - ⇒ construction of a new visitor reception centre at Narrow Hills Provincial Park.
- ⇒ Overall spending in arts, culture and heritage has increased in the past six years and the government continues to build on strong investments in arts, culture and heritage:
 - ⇒ new funding to Creative Saskatchewan in the amount of \$7.7 million to assist in marketing the works of all creative industries.
 - ⇒ \$250,000 continuing funds for the successful arts and culture sector program artsVest™, matched by federal funding which in turn leverages private sector investment;
 - ⇒ \$550,000 continuing funds for the successful Main Street Saskatchewan Demonstration Program aimed at historic building rehabilitation and streetscape improvements that has resulted in new jobs and new business in Main Street districts since its launch in 2011 and leverages private sector commitments; and,
 - ⇒ an increase of 3 per cent in funding to the Saskatchewan Arts Board, on top of the 5 per cent increase in 2013-14.
- ⇒ Several key programs will continue in 2014-15, such as the Active Families Benefit and the Community Rink Affordability Grant and, in addition the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, the Provincial Capital Commission and Government House will continue to improve programs and exhibits and create celebratory events to attract more visitors.

For More Information

Please visit the Ministry's website at www.saskatchewan.ca/government/ministries/parks-culture-and-sport or telephone (306-787-5729) for more information on the Ministry's programs and services.

Front Page Photo Credits

			
Canola and flax fields	Biking, Narrow Hills Provincial Park	Over the Hill Orchards	Saskatchewan Legislative Building
Photographer, Charles Melnick	Greg Huszar Photography	Greg Huszar Photography	Greg Huszar Photography